

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A stabilizer for facilitating manipulation of a computer expansion card within an expansion card enclosure, comprising:

5 a base configured for attachment to the expansion card enclosure; and
a tab extending from said base for engaging a card cage, wherein said card cage is maintained in a first position for manipulating an expansion card in the card cage when engaged with said tab.

10 2. The stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said expansion card is operable with a computer system coupled to the expansion card enclosure when the card cage is attached to the expansion card enclosure in a second position.

15 3. The stabilizer of claim 1, further comprising a mount for a status indicator configured to indicate a status of the expansion card enclosure.

4. The stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said base is further configured for removable attachment to the expansion card enclosure.

20 5. The stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said tab extends from said base and defines a slot between said base and said tab.

25 6. The stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said base comprises:
a top; and
a plurality of edges; and
said tab extends upward from said top of said base and an end of said tab is substantially parallel and vertically aligned with one of said edges.

30

7. The stabilizer of claim 6, wherein one or more of said tab and said one edge are beveled.

8. An enclosure for computer expansion cards, wherein the enclosure is electrically connectable to a computer system for operation of the expansion cards, said enclosure comprising:

a removable cage comprising connectors for one or more computer expansion cards; and

a stabilizer for stabilizing said removable cage as an expansion card is manipulated in said removable cage.

9. The enclosure of claim 8, wherein the removable cage is stabilized by said stabilizer in a first position different from a second position in which said expansion card is operable within said removable cage.

10. The enclosure of claim 8, wherein said stabilizer comprises a mount for a status indicator configured to indicate a status of the enclosure.

11. The enclosure of claim 8, wherein said stabilizer comprises a tab extending from a first surface of the stabilizer;

wherein said tab is configured to facilitate stabilization of said removable cage between said tab and said first surface.

12. The enclosure of claim 11, wherein said stabilizer further comprises means for securing said stabilizer to the enclosure.

13. The enclosure of claim 11, wherein said securing means comprises a captive screw.

14. An enclosure for housing multiple computer expansion cards,

comprising:

an expansion card assembly comprising multiple expansion card slots
for accepting computer expansion cards; and

- 5 a stabilizer configured to stabilize said expansion card assembly while
a first expansion card is manipulated in said assembly;
wherein the enclosure is no more than one rack unit in height.

- 15 15. The enclosure of claim 14, further comprising means for
coupling said enclosure to an external computer system to enable operation of
said computer expansion cards with the computer system.

16. The enclosure of claim 14, wherein said expansion card
assembly is removable.

- 15 17. The enclosure of claim 16, wherein said expansion card
assembly is maintained in a first orientation during operation of said computer
expansion cards; and
said expansion card assembly is stabilized by said stabilizer in a second
orientation during said manipulation of said first expansion card.

20

18. The enclosure of claim 17, wherein said second orientation is
substantially perpendicular to said first orientation.

19. The enclosure of claim 14, wherein said stabilizer comprises a
25 status indicator configured to indicate a status of the enclosure.